Hannah Kowalski

Children's Pastor

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SUMMARY

Children's pastor with 6 years in children's ministry, overseeing birth through 5th grade for a church of about 1,000. Builds safe, well-run Sunday programs through curriculum development, volunteer recruitment and clear child safety policies, and works closely with parents.

EXPERIENCE

Children's Pastor

03/2023 - Present

Riverbend Community Church

Grand Rapids, MI

Church of about 1,000 with 2 Sunday services and a Wednesday family night.

- Oversee Sunday and Wednesday programs for about **260** children from birth through 5th grade.
- Recruit and train 140 volunteers a year, running background checks and abuse prevention training for every adult.
- Rewrote the child safety policies and Planning Center check-in process, cutting average check-in lines from 12 minutes to 4.
- Plan Vacation Bible School for 380 children and 4 family events a year within a $45,000 ministry budget.

Children's Ministry Coordinator

08/2020 - 02/2023

Westwood Bible Church

Holland, MI

Coordinated Sunday programs for nursery through 5th grade.

- Adapted a purchased curriculum for 3 age groups through weekly lesson planning, adding small group questions and take-home family guides.
- Grew the weekly volunteer team from 35 to 58 through monthly sign-up drives and personal invitations.
- Scheduled nursery and preschool rooms for 2 services, keeping adult-to-child ratios within church policy.

SKILLS

- Children's Ministry
- Curriculum Development
- Volunteer Recruitment
- Child Safety Policies
- Background Checks
- Lesson Planning
- Family Ministry
- Event Planning
- Planning Center
- Communication

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science

05/2020

Cornerstone University

Grand Rapids, MI

Ministry Leadership

CERTIFICATES

Abuse Prevention Training

02/2024

MinistrySafe

Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED

08/2025

American Red Cross